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Rev. Amos A. Phelps

Anti Slavery Office

No 130 Nassau Stt New York

L. C. Q — A Student

Princeton March 16. 1835

I would mention that one of the principal objections urged here is that the Apostles did not preach against slavery in their day – but merely preached Christ & him crucified knowing that this doctrine would overthrow every unrighteous system – woe them to colonization temperance, Bible, Tract, Missionary &c Societies !!

I will make out a list of those families which may be invited by the time of your arrival –

$3,00 — This room is on the second story — and the owner of the house is also its occupant — so that selfinterest would dictate to him a prudent & gentlemanly course. The difficulty in the way of holding a truly public meeting, is that there are many very wild students in the college from the South, who would like no better frolic than to mob an antislavery man —

Wednesday evening is the evening on which you must hold your meeting, if you come — because on that evening we have no exercises in the Seminary, and all the students could attend. Come next week, if you can conveniently, or else the week after, on Tuesday — Put up at Mr. Blackwell's tavern — and to avoid the appearance of any preconcerted plan, try and obtain Dr Rice's church for the next evening — it will be refused — certainly; — and then engage the room above mentioned — On Tuesday evening & Wednesday I will introduce the halfway abolitionists to you, that their faith may be strengthened by conversation — which will be very necessary. —

For the sake of the cause of abolition here, as well as my peace while I remain in this place — do not whisper it even that I have had a hand in bringing it about — for my relation situation are very different from what they would be were I a regular & stated inhabitant.

Bring tickets with you to give to the friends & others who may be invited & attend — & write to me immediately as to what will be done — & when we may expect to see you —

What I have mentioned has been in confidence, & it may be mentioned to Mr Thompson also in confidence — but to no others — for you must perceive the propriety of secrecy in such a movement, seeing that I am merely a student — &c —

In haste from your fellowlaborer

L. C. E. —

Princeton Theol. Sem.y March 16th 1836

Mr A. A. Phelps

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Dear Sir

I received your letter on Friday last - and am happy to say that there is one way in which you can gain admission to the minds & hearts of this people. - I will first however state where you cannot be heard - It has for a long time been my desire to have the Students of the Theological Seminary, with which I am connected, addressed on this important subject and accordingly about 2 months since I called on Dr. Alexander, and asked him whether the Professors had any objections to our inviting Mr Thompson here to address us - He said "they had objections, they wanted no stranger here, they would as leave have any other political subject introduced into the Seminary &c &c - & that his mind was fixed immoveably in the determination to keep the subject out of the Seminary if he could" So the doors of the Seminary are closed against you - Neither could you obtain the church in this place - for it need only be mentioned that Dr. Rice is its pastor - Neither can you obtain any public room or hall to hold a public meeting for fear of damage from a mob - But there is a large and beautiful room, which will hold about 200, in the central part of the borough - and I spoke with the owner about hiring it from him for an evening - mentioning the subject. He said he had no objections if - we would have a meeting in a measure private, or select, by inviting then only the Students of the Seminary and a few select persons in the borough - & have them admitted by tickets. - thus concealing the meeting entirely from the mobocrats - and the expense of the room lighted & furnished with seats will be